Serial N . 10/067,112

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

STEEGHS, H. et al.

Serial No:

10/067,112

Filing Date: February 4, 2002

Title: PROCESS FOR AGGLOMERATING

PARTICULATE MATERIAL AND PRODUCTS

MADE FROM SUCH PROCESSES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No: ASC 5695 US2

Examiner: M. J. Andrews

Group Art Unit: 1742

and Pre Cinerally

Met and Ciner

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 8, 17 and 47 to read as follows:

(Twice amended) A process of agglomerating metallic ore, said process comprising 1. commingling said metallic ore with a moistening effective amount of water, a binding effective amount of a polymer selected from the group consisting of guar, guar derivatives and mixtures thereof, and a binding effective amount of a weak acid selected from the group consisting of citric acid, malic acid, tartaric acid and mixtures thereof to produce a mixture and forming said mixture into aggl merates.

P:\ParkertA5C5695US2.prelim smd2.doc

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

STEEGHS, H. et al.

Serial No:

10/067,112

Filing Date: February 4, 2002

Title: PROCESS FOR AGGLOMERATING

PARTICULATE MATERIAL AND PRODUCTS:

MADE FROM SUCH PROCESSES

Docket No: ASC 5695 US2

Examiner: M. J. Andrews

Group Art Unit: 1742

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

It is hereby certified that the attached SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT WITH MARKED VERSION (5 sheets) is being telefaxed to facsimile machine 703-872-9067 in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on this 25th day of July, 2002 by the undersigned.

Please charge any fees which may be due (including filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17) to Deposit Account No. 01-1350. If an extension of time is required, but has not been requested above, applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time sufficient for the attached document(s) to be timely.

P:\Parker\ASC6695US2.cert fax.profim amd2.doc